RG56 Entry 289 Box 4

Examination of Mr Bradford

Collated.

July 4th 1839

Mr Bradford
Examined on behalf
of Mr Maxwell

Did not the difficulties between the assayer & Melter and Refiner originate mainly from Mr Maxwell reporting his having ascertained that there was more gold in certain deposites of bullion than the assayer had supposed; & has not the Assayer injected himself to prevent your distributing the same among Lizardi, La Sarie & Exchange Bank, some or all of them whom Mr Maxwell supposed had deposited the bullion which had been found?

Ans. The difficulties between the Assayer & Melter & Refiner originated in the assayer's rejecting a great number of melts of ingots the first that were cast at this Mint. The assayer has not injected himself to prevent my distributing the pretended excess which Dr Hart never acknowledged to exist & contended that there was no such excess

Mr Bradford

RG56 Entry 289 Box 4

July 4th

On behalf of Dr. Hort.

Did or did not Dr. Hort say in talking of such excess, that whether such excess existed or not, it had not been demonstrated to him, Dr. Hort?

Ans. Yes he did. Mr. Maxwell furnished an account which deponent exhibited to the Doctor. The said account is now produced by deponent & filed. Dr. Hort always recommended that the gold should be separated from the silver cast into ingots & delivered to the Treasurer regularly; as the only way of ascertaining whether there was or was not an excess which has not been done.

Quest. Did Dr. Hort contend that an excess in gold had not been demonstrated to him or only that it had not been demonstrated to whom such excess belonged?

Ans. He always denied it to me that there was any such excess in his opinion & said that he had not believed in the assertion of the Mother and

Mr. Bradford

RG56 Entry 289 Box 4

July 4th.

Resumed.

Quest. Look at the paper now exhibited, headed Silver bullion deposited by Lizardi & Co & say in whose hand writing it is?

Ans. A great deal of it is in deponents hand writing & some of the figures are in Lassère's writing. Deponent commenced, copied it from the weighing book & copied down to ~~No 7. on the~~ left hand column, the balance is in Lassère's figures ~~xxx~~ the Clerk of the Treasurer's Office. Thinks Lassère copied it by deponents directions does not know the meaning of the figures therein as follows

*10 – 1925 – 98.
11 – 612 – 82.

nor why said figures were put there. This paper was delivered to Mr Maxwell about the first week of January a day or two after a difficulty arose about this paper between Lassère & Maxwell. The difficulty was about the gold in

Mr Boulden

RG56 Entry 289 Box 4

the Lizardi deposits.&c

Mr. Bradford a few days before giving the above paper to Mr. Maxwell had told him that he must not take the weighing book to his room, but that he could have access to the book at the Treasurer's Office by asking the Clerk, but that he must not go near it otherwise. Supposes he told Maxwell he might have copies from it, as he gave such an order a few days afterwards.

Examination on behalf of Mr. Tyler by the Commissioner.

There having been presented here sundry copies of protest of Mint Certificates for small sums such as the three protested at the request of the Commercial Bank for $47 26/100 for $195 22/100 and for $243 85/100 will you state whether these Certificates could not have been paid from the funds on hand without necessity of protest, & if not why?

Mr. Bradford

RG56 Entry 289 Box 4

Ans. Believes they could not be paid, that the Cashier had not furnished the requisite funds—

Quest. Were there not twenty times their amount paid to depositors subsequently to those stated in said three Certificates, that is to say to other depositors & were not such payments made prior to said protests at the request of the Commercial Bank

Ans. That he does not know as to all these facts, & refers for answer thereto to the Treasurer's Clerk & the books of the Mint.

Quest. Did you frequently refer depositors or recommend the Treasurer to refer depositors to the Cashier, when they applied for payment of Certificates

Ans. [illegible]

Mr. Bradford

RG56 Entry 289 Box 4

I certify the [illegible] to be a true copy of the Testimony given by Mr Bradford before Thos Slidell Esq. the Commissioner on the 4th of July 1839.

In testimony whereof I hereunto subscribe my name & affix the impress of my seal of office, at New Orleans, on this 7th day of August 1839

Thos Slidell
Com'r

July 4/39